



Committee: House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1369 – Public Health – Abortions – Standards and Reporting

Hearing: March 11, 2022

Position: Oppose

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) opposes *House Bill 1369 – Public Health – Abortions – Standards and Reporting*. The bill would create a statutory standard of viability at 24 weeks. We believe that clinicians should determine viability based on all the information about a pregnancy, as each pregnancy is unique. The Maryland Affiliate of ACNM is opposed to legislation designed to interfere with an individual’s autonomy in making reproductive health decisions. In 2019 after state legislatures introduced a record-breaking number of anti-reproductive health measures, ACNM – National issued a statement that “reaffirms its commitment to individual patient autonomy across the spectrum of reproductive health, including abortion.”ⁱ Therefore, we oppose this legislation and ask for an unfavorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

ⁱ<https://www.midwife.org/acnm/files/cclibraryfiles/filename/000000007327/ACNM%20Opposition%20Statement%20to%20Threats%20to%20Abortion%20Care%20March%202019.pdf>